

opening of Wright-Patterson AFB's new Fisher House and Compassionate Care Facility.

RECOGNIZING THE 2010-2011 CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR 500 HOURS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY—JILL WALLER

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure and privilege to inform the Members of the United States House of Representatives that the students of the 2010–2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council, CYAC, from the Third District of Texas have completed a total of 500 community service hours, fulfilling and far-surpassing the requirements of their assigned CYAC in the Community service project.

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President George H.W. Bush once said, "A volunteer is a person who can see what others cannot see; who can feel what most do not feel. Often, such gifted persons do not think of themselves as volunteers, but as citizens—citizens in the fullest sense: partners in civilization."

With this statement as a benchmark, I am proud to congratulate the members of the 2010–2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council for showing themselves to be outstanding young citizens of this nation. It is my privilege to submit summaries of their work to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to be preserved for posterity and antiquity. To these young public servants, thank you, and keep up the great work! I salute you!

A copy of each submitted student summary follows:

For my volunteer work, I went to Truett Elementary School on three occasions. During my time there, I got to work with underprivileged kids in their after-school program, because many of the children have working parents who cannot pick them up from school until 2 hours after the school day ends. Depending on the day and time, I would help with homework for the day, do arts and crafts, and play with the kids on the playground. Each time, I made friends with the kids and helped them in some way or another, whether it was walking with them to the bathroom or teaching them how to do their math homework. Much of the after-

school program is run by volunteers, and without all of us the teachers would not be able to have as many activities for the children or be able to control all of them. This experience showed me how well I had it as a child, as well as how young children in our community need people to look up to and help them. I plan on going back to Truett at least once a week if I can, and continuing to help all of the children with their work.

—*Jill Waller*

RESTORING GI BILL FAIRNESS ACT OF 2011

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today, I have introduced the Restoring GI Bill Fairness Act of 2011.

This bill will temporarily authorize the Department of Veterans Affairs, VA, to pay tuition and fees on behalf of eligible veterans attending non-public education and training institutions in an amount that is the greater of \$17,500, or the maximum in-state rate for undergraduate tuition and fees in effect on October 27, 2010.

Mr. Speaker, this temporary change would prevent students who have already enrolled in non-public schools from experiencing a reduction in tuition and fees paid by VA on their behalf due to changes made under Public Law 111–377, the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Improvements Act of 2010.

Under the original Post 9/11 GI Bill passed in 2008, the maximum tuition and fees paid to any school—public or private—was equal to the highest in-state rate for undergraduate tuition and fees. Most students attending private institutions in a few states with high public school tuition and fees like New York, Michigan, and Texas receive more assistance under the state-based formula than they will beginning next August under the \$17,500 per year cap required by Public Law 111–377. Such was the expectation of those who enrolled in private schools before the changes were made. I believe it is only fair to "grandfather" those veterans who, through no fault of their own, were adversely affected.

I am pleased to note that this bill is fully paid for in compliance with House rules. The offsets required by this bill are preliminarily estimated to be about \$105 million and will be covered by a temporary, short-term freeze in the monthly Post 9/11 GI Bill housing stipend amounts at the current level for a period of 30 months beginning August 1, 2011. After that period, the monthly housing stipend will be restored to the full rate in effect at that time.

Mr. Speaker this is a temporary, but important fix to the GI Bill that will benefit hundreds of veterans in several states and I encourage all Members to cosponsor the bill.

IRAN'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because the threat posed by a nuclear armed

Iran poses an unacceptable risk to the United States and our close ally Israel.

It is clear that Iran is not pursuing a purely civilian nuclear program, but rather one that is designed to further their ability to access and utilize nuclear weapons. This is supported by our country's military and intelligence leaders. Chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Adm. Michael Mullen said he doesn't believe "for a second" that Iran's nuclear program is for civilian use. While Director of Intelligence James Clapper testified to Congress that Iran is developing "various nuclear capabilities that better position it to produce such weapons."

Yet, Iran's nuclear program continues unabated.

With enough low-enriched nuclear material to produce three nuclear bombs, Iran could be at most two or three years away from a nuclear weapon. They are also developing the capacity to stockpile highly enriched nuclear material.

Quite simply, United States policy must remain focused on preventing Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon. I believe that sanctions remain the best tool at our disposal to peacefully persuade Iran to abandon its reckless defiance of international law.

While existing sanctions from the U.S. and the international community had achieved a crippling effect on the Iranian economy, I believe that our sanctions should be tougher to keep pressure on the Iranian leadership. This includes sanctioning foreign banks and energy companies.

The choice is ours: we must continue to engage the international community and do everything in our power to protect our vital ally Israel.

RECOGNIZING REV. CHARLES L. CURRIE, S.J.

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my heartfelt congratulations to a dear friend, Rev. Charles L. Currie, S.J., on his retirement from the presidency of the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU).

For over four decades, Father Currie has served as a tireless advocate of independent higher education. His passion and dedication have had a tremendous influence on the lives of countless students through his multiple roles as an educator, spiritual leader, and humanitarian. A true renaissance man, Father Currie has personified the AJCU mission of leading a meaningful life of leadership and service.

A product of the Jesuit system, Father Currie earned degrees from Fordham University, Boston College, and Woodstock College, as well as a doctorate in physical chemistry from the Catholic University of America. Following his post-doctoral studies at Cambridge University, Father Currie went on to serve as a noted faculty member at Georgetown University before serving as president of Wheeling College (1972–1982) and Xavier University (1982–1986). At Wheeling and Xavier, his vision and leadership placed an emphasis on the importance of academic quality, effective

planning and management, active involvement and commitment to the community, and strong public-private and ecumenical partnerships.

Following his tenure at Wheeling and Xavier, Father Currie returned to Georgetown University to direct the University's Bicentennial Celebration, which included over 90 academic, cultural and celebratory events from September of 1988 through September of 1989. Later in 1989, following the assassination of six Jesuit priests and two female coworkers by members of the El Salvadorian military, Father Currie was named special assistant to the President of Georgetown to coordinate the university's response to this tragedy. Working closely with congressional leaders and aides, Father Currie successfully organized a number of educational programs at Georgetown and participated in the extensive Congressional response to block military aid to El Salvador.

In 1997, following several years serving as Rector of the Jesuit Community at Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia, Father Currie took the reins as president of the AJCU. Under his leadership, the AJCU has implemented numerous initiatives to increase the free flow of information and communication between the 28 member institutions of the Association. The development of the Jesuit Distance Education Network (JesuitNET) has earned national acclaim, receiving two federal grants and selection by the U.S. Department of Education to participate in the Distance Education Demonstration Program. Similarly, the creation of the AJCU Leadership Development Seminar, the promotion of mission and identity activities, and the concerted effort to promote the education of justice have combined to significantly enhance the coordination of Association goals among member institutions.

Perhaps Father Currie's greatest accomplishment as president of the AJCU arose out of tragedy. In 2005, following the Hurricane Katrina catastrophe, Father Currie organized a rapid response from the AJCU members to admit over 1,600 students from Loyola University New Orleans and other affected area universities. By allowing the affected students to continue their studies before returning to the Gulf area in the spring semester, the students were able to maintain uninterrupted instruction and remain on track for timely graduation.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Father Currie for his immeasurable contributions to the cause of higher education and I congratulate him on his well earned retirement following a distinguished career of service and advocacy. In closing, I would be remiss if I did not include the following Ignatian prayer, dedicated to Father Currie and the devoted Jesuit educators like him:

Eternal Word, only begotten Son of God,
Teach me true generosity.
Teach me to serve you as you deserve.
To give without counting the cost,
To fight heedless of wounds,
To labor without seeking rest,
To sacrifice myself without thought of any reward,
Save the knowledge that I have done your will.
Amen.

RECOGNIZING THE 2010-2011 CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR 500 HOURS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY—ROSS VAN DE KOP

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OF TEXAS

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Entering the North Texas Food Bank, I expected to find a small operation of a few dedicated volunteers working tirelessly towards helping as many people as they could. Yet this was not the case, as the facility that I arrived at was a massive testament to the human capacity for compassion. Over 200 workers in a warehouse that rivaled the size of an industrial plant, completely dedicated to helping the citizens of North Texas. Considering a society is measured on how we treat our worst citizens, I would go as far as to say the people at the food bank are bringing America to an even higher standard. The NTFB provided over 40 million meals for the citizens of North Texas in 2010, and are aiming to hit 50 million by the end of this year. Had I only heard this number and not seen the facility, I would have called it far too ambitious. But from what I observed, we

packed 21,155 pounds of usable food, creating a total of 16,227 meals, in under 5 hours. Thanks to the people at the North Texas Food Bank, I truly believe that we, as both Texans and Americans, are doing our best to help as many people as we can.

—Ross Van de Kop

INTRODUCTION OF THE HEALTH OUTCOMES, PLANNING AND EDUCATION ACT (HOPE) FOR ALZHEIMER'S

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my fellow co-chair of the bipartisan Alzheimer's Task Force Mr. SMITH (R-NJ) and colleagues Rep. McDermott (D-WA), Burgess (R-TX), BORDALLO (D-GU), Christensen (D-VI), Grijalva (D-AZ) and Pierluisi (D-PR) to introduce the bipartisan Health Outcomes, Planning and Education (HOPE) for Alzheimer's Act.

One in eight Americans over 65—or 5.4 million individuals—have Alzheimer's disease. Unless science finds a way to prevent or cure it, over 13 million Americans will have Alzheimer's disease by the year 2050.

The HOPE Act aims to improve the way we diagnosis Alzheimer's disease and other dementias and provide important information about care and treatment for patients and their families. The bill provides Medicare coverage for comprehensive diagnoses of Alzheimer's disease to guarantee that seniors who show signs of Alzheimer's can receive a formal diagnosis from their doctor and that this diagnosis is documented in their medical record. The bill would also improve care and reduce costs by providing information and resources to newly diagnosed patients and their families by including, for the first time, caregivers in discussions with doctors and patients.

At present, most people with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias have not received an official diagnosis. Data from a report done by the Alzheimer's Association found only 19 percent of people over age 65 with dementia had a diagnosis documented in their medical record. African American and Hispanic populations, at higher risk for Alzheimer's disease than whites, are even less likely to have been diagnosed.

Early diagnoses can help individuals receive treatments early, when medications are more likely to be effective, and they allow patients to participate in clinical trials to benefit from cutting edge research. With an early diagnosis, patients can prepare for the oncoming symptoms of the disease with their doctors and caregivers. Ultimately, this can bring down Medicare costs by helping patients better manage other preexisting medical conditions and avoid crises.

Each year, the federal government spends \$93 billion out of Medicare, or almost 20% of the entire Medicare budget, to care for Alzheimer's patients. This money pays for hospitalizations, doctor's visits, and drugs associated with the disease. Facilitating conversations with doctors and caregivers and providing resources for families can help mitigate the number of hospitalizations and complications for patients with the disease.